

CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1 1. A method performed by a server for directing a subsequent update of a store, the method
2 comprising:

3 a step for parsing a provided template according to a markup language, the template
4 including a start tag comprising an attribute value, parsing being performed to determine a value
5 name from the attribute value;

6 a step for preparing a key comprising the value name;

7 a step for preparing a request comprising a portion of the template after substituting the
8 key for at least the attribute value; and

9 a step for providing the request to a client of the server.

1 2. The method of claim 1 further for updating the store, the method further comprising:

2 a step for parsing a message received from the client, the message comprising the key and
3 an update value; and

4 a step for updating the store in accordance with the update value at a record accessed in
5 accordance with the key.

1 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the markup language is consistent with XML.

1 4. The method of claim 3 wherein the key comprises first indicia identifying a group of records
2 of the store, second indicia identifying a subgroup of the group, and third indicia identifying a
3 record of the subgroup.

1 5. The method of claim 4 wherein:

2 the record comprises a first field, a second field, and a third field, wherein the first field
3 comprises a first value, the second field comprises a second value; and the third field comprises a
4 third value; and

5 the key comprises the first value, the second value, and the third value.

1 6. The method of claim 4 wherein the key comprises a result of concatenation of the first
2 indicia, the second indicia, and the third indicia.

1 7. The method of claim 6 wherein the message further comprises a parameter name and a
2 parameter value, the parameter name comprising the key.

1 8. The method of claim 7 wherein:
2 the store comprises a plurality of value names and a corresponding plurality of named
3 values;
4 the value name is a member of the plurality of value names; and
5 the step for updating further comprises a step for assigning the update value as the named
6 value corresponding to the value name.

1 9. The method of claim 8 wherein:
2 the step for parsing to determine a value name comprises a step for parsing the attribute
3 value according to the markup language to determine a second start tag and a second attribute
4 value; and
5 the value name is determined in accordance with the second attribute value.

1 10. The method of claim 9 wherein the step for parsing to determine a value name comprises:
2 a step for parsing the attribute value according to the markup language to determine a
3 second start tag; and
4 a step for parsing the second start tag to determine a second attribute value, a third
5 attribute value, and a fourth attribute value; wherein the value name is determined in accordance
6 with the second attribute value, the third attribute value, and the fourth attribute value.

1 11. A computer readable medium comprising indicia of the method of claim 10.

1 12. A server comprising:

2 means for parsing a template according to a markup language, the markup language
3 having a start tag comprising an attribute value, parsing being performed to determine a value
4 name from the attribute value;
5 means for preparing a key comprising the value name;
6 means for preparing a request comprising a portion of the template after substituting the
7 key for at least the attribute value;
8 means for providing the request to a client of the server.

1 13. The server of claim 12 further comprising:

2 means for storing a record;
3 means for receiving a message comprising a key and an update value; and
4 means for updating the record accessed in accordance with the key.

1 14. The server of claim 13 wherein the markup language is consistent with XML.

1 15. The server of claim 14 wherein the key comprises first indicia identifying a group of records
2 of the means for storing, second indicia identifying a subgroup of the group, and third indicia
3 identifying one record of the subgroup.

1 16. The server of claim 15 wherein:

2 the record comprises a first field, a second field, and a third field, wherein the first field
3 comprises a first value, the second field comprises a second value; and the third field comprises a
4 third value; and
5 the key comprises the first value, the second value, and the third value.

1 17. The server of claim 16 wherein the key comprises a result of concatenation of the first
2 indicia, the second indicia, and the third indicia.

1 18. The server of claim 17 wherein the message further comprises a parameter name and a
2 parameter value, the parameter name comprising the key.

1 19. The server of claim 18 wherein:
2 the means for storing comprises a plurality of value names and a corresponding plurality
3 of named values;
4 the value name is a member of the plurality of value names; and
5 the means for updating further comprises means for assigning the update value as the
6 named value corresponding to the value name.

1 20. The server of claim 19 wherein:
2 the means for parsing to determine a value name comprises means for parsing the
3 attribute value according to a markup language to determine a second start tag and a second
4 attribute value; and
5 the value name is determined in accordance with the second attribute value.

1 21. The server of claim 20 wherein the means for parsing to determine a value name comprises:
2 means for parsing the attribute value according to a markup language to determine a
3 second start tag; and
4 means for parsing the second start tag to determine a second attribute value, a third
5 attribute value, and a fourth attribute value; wherein the value name is determined in accordance
6 with the second attribute value, the third attribute value, and the fourth attribute value.

1 22. A method for updating a record of a store, the method comprising:
2 a step for composing a page to be sent via a network, the page comprising
3 (1) a start tag comprising an attribute value, the attribute value comprising a value
4 name; and
5 (2) at least one named value recalled from the record of the store;
6 a step for decomposing a message received via the network, the message comprising
7 indicia of the value name and a replacement value; and
8 a step for updating the named value of the record in accordance with the replacement
9 value, wherein updating comprises a step for accessing the record in accordance with the indicia
10 of the value name.